



2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

Scouting  America
Cherokee Area Council



TABLE OF CONTENTS

4	Note from the Council
5	Scout Oath and Law
6	Value of Scouting
7	Council Highlights
8-23	Yearly Recap
24	Eagle Scouts
25	MoonPie Fundraiser
26	Community Service
27	Board Members and Officers



Scan the QR code to sign up for our monthly newsletter if you want to stay up-to-date on all things regarding your local BSA council!



A NOTE FROM THE COUNCIL

Scouting Friends and Community Partners,

On behalf of the leadership of the Cherokee Area Council, thank you for your generous support and steadfast partnership throughout 2025. Your encouragement, time, and resources have made a meaningful impact on the lives of the Scouts and families we serve across our communities. Because of you, young people are gaining confidence, character, and leadership skills that will guide them for a lifetime. We are deeply grateful for your continued commitment and look forward to building an even stronger future together.



Council President



Council Commissioner



Scout Executive/CEO



SCOUT OATH

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.



SCOUT LAW

A Scout is:
Trustworthy
Loyal
Helpful
Friendly
Courteous
Kind
Obedient
Cheerful
Thrifty
Brave
Clean
Reverent

NATIONAL MISSION:

The mission of Scouting America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

LOCAL MISSION:

To get kids in Scouting and keep them in Scouting!

LOCAL VISION:

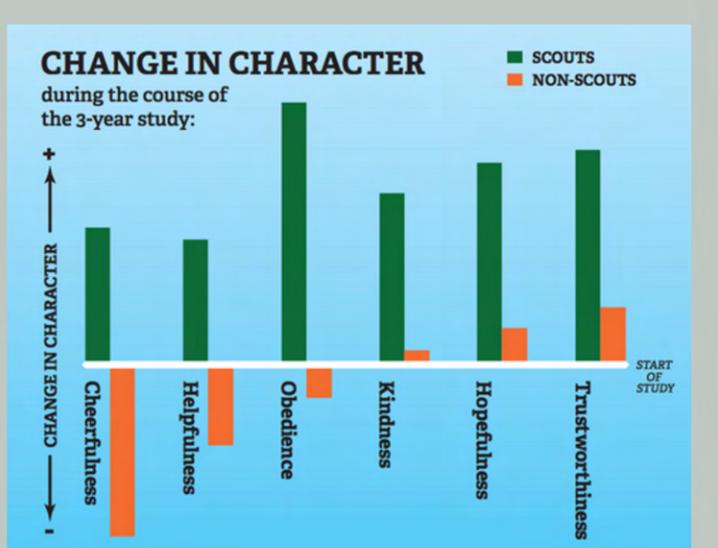
To include more families and be the community Champion for Values.

THE VALUE OF SCOUTING

We all know Scouting's goal is to prepare young people for life, but does it work? Scouting was put to the test over the course of three years, when a research team from Tufts University worked with the Boy Scouts of America's Cradle of Liberty Council to measure the character attributes of both Scouts and non-Scouts — all with a goal of better understanding the character development of youth as it was happening. Over the course of three years, 2,000+ Scouts and non-Scouts aged 6-12 from across the Philadelphia area were measured in six key areas:

HOPEFULNESS
HELPFULNESS
OBEDIENCE

CHEERFULNESS
KINDNESS
TRUSTWORTHINESS



KEY FINDINGS:



The **more time** kids spend in Scouting, the **better the outcomes** in character development



Those who attend meetings **regularly** report **higher outcomes** virtually across the board when compared to Scouts with lower attendance



Scouts are more likely to embrace **positive social values** than non-Scouts



Scouts who are **more engaged** in the program report **higher outcomes** in nearly every category

THE IMPACT OF SCOUTING

Research conducted by Harris Interactive shows:

Trustworthy: 75% of Scouts agree that Scouting has taught them to always be honest and to be a leader.

Loyal: 83% say spending time with family is important to them.

Helpful: 80% of Scouts believe that helping others should come before their own self-interest.

Friendly: 80% of Scouts say that Scouting has taught them to treat others with respect and 78% to get along with others.

Courteous: 87% of Scouts believe older people should be treated with respect.

Kind: 78% of Scouts say that Scouting has taught them to care for other people.

Obedient: Boys in Scouting five years or more are more likely to reject peer pressure to hang out with young delinquents.

Cheerful: 78% of Scouts are happy with their schools and their neighborhoods.

Thrifit: 82% of Scouts say that saving money for the future is a priority.

Brave: 80% of Scouts say that Scouting has increased their confidence, and 51% rate their self-confidence as excellent.

Clean: 79% of Scouts say that Scouting has taught them to have more respect for the environment and their physical fitness.

Reverent: 83% of men who were Scouts for five or more years say attending religious services as a family is very important.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

81 Scouting Groups served more than **2,200 young people** throughout Southeast Tennessee and Northwest Georgia.

Over **550 new Scouts** and their families joined Scouting for the first time.

New families **joining in the Fall boomed**, increasing **32%** of prior year.

1 of every 4 local Scouts is a girl, and 2 young women earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

Ethnic diversity has grown to **19%** of our total youth membership.

More than **200 urban-core youth** from Hamilton County Title 1 Schools were served by Scoutreach programs in partnership with Boys and Girls Clubs of Chattanooga.

More than **15,000 hours of community service** were contributed by our Scouts.

2,525 pounds of food were delivered to the Chattanooga Area Food Bank through our "Scouting for Food" drive.

60,000 graves of veterans were **decorated** with an American Flag for Memorial Day across the region.

153,000 MoonPies were sold in collaboration with our local Chattanooga Bakery. If they were stacked on each other...they would reach nearly **2.5 miles** high! That's 7 times as tall as Lookout Mountain!

2,500 Scouts and their families **attended Skymont Scout Reservation** for adventure programs.

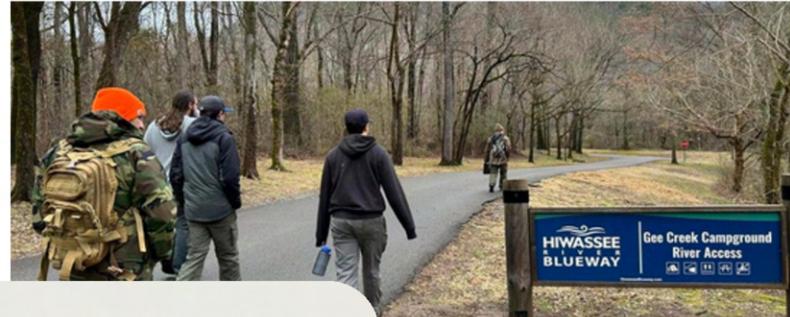
4,500 people attended in-person Council and District **events** and thousands more attended weekly meetings.

Scouts earned **6,248 Merit Badges** (Scouts BSA) and Adventures (Cub Scouts) each representing a life skill or experience.

55 young people earned the rank of **Eagle Scout**, and their projects alone contributed **7,900 hours** of community service.

Scouts from the Chattanooga area journeyed to the cool canoe waterways of the Canadian border, the warm sailing seas of the Gulf of Mexico, dry mountains of New Mexico, and Appalachian woodlands of West Virginia on High Adventure Treks.

JANUARY



Cold-Weather Adventures



FEBRUARY



MARCH



Troop 44 Cub Crossover



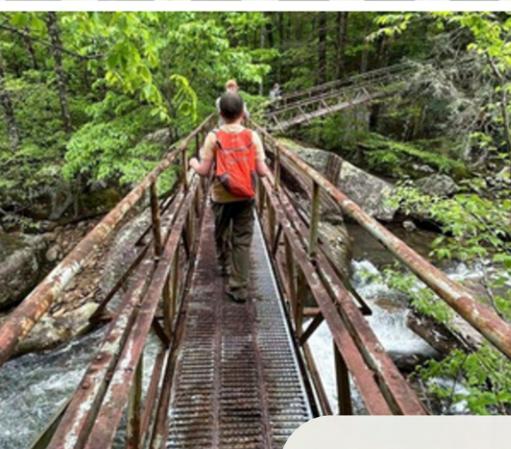
Troop 10 Campout



APRIL



Scouting for Food



Troop 10 Backpacking Trip



MAY



Mountain Man Camp-o-Ree



JUNE



Flag Day Ceremony at Elks Lodge



Sea Base



SCOUTREACH



Highland Park Boys and Girls Club



Hardy Elementary Pack Meeting



- **230 urban-core youth served through ScoutReach programming during the 2024-2025 School Year.**
- **8+ Title I elementary schools participated in the program, including Hardy, Calvin Donaldson, Orchard Knob, Tyner, Woodmore, Barger, Clifton Hills, and East Lake.**
- **6 ScoutReach program units were successfully launched or continued at Title I schools and community sites across Hamilton County.**
- **174 weekly ScoutReach meetings were held across 6 community partner sites: East Lake Boys and Girls Club, Highland Park Boys & Girls Club, Hardy Elementary, Brown Academy, Emma Wheeler Boys & Girls Club, and East Lake Duck Pond.**
- **100% of ScoutReach programming remains focused on serving youth from low-income and under-resourced communities, with intentional outreach and partnerships that reflect the diversity of the populations served.**

SKYMONT SUMMER



CAMP



JULY



3 Rivers Challenge



Troop 1070 Goes West



AUGUST



Polk County Fair Opening Flag Ceremony



Fall Camporee



19



SEPTEMBER



Troop 172 - USS Yorktown



Troop 10 Sailing Trip



OCTOBER



Flag Retirement



Troop 82 Wilderness Survival Weekend



NOVEMBER



Merit Badge Fishing



Pack 4 Den Activities



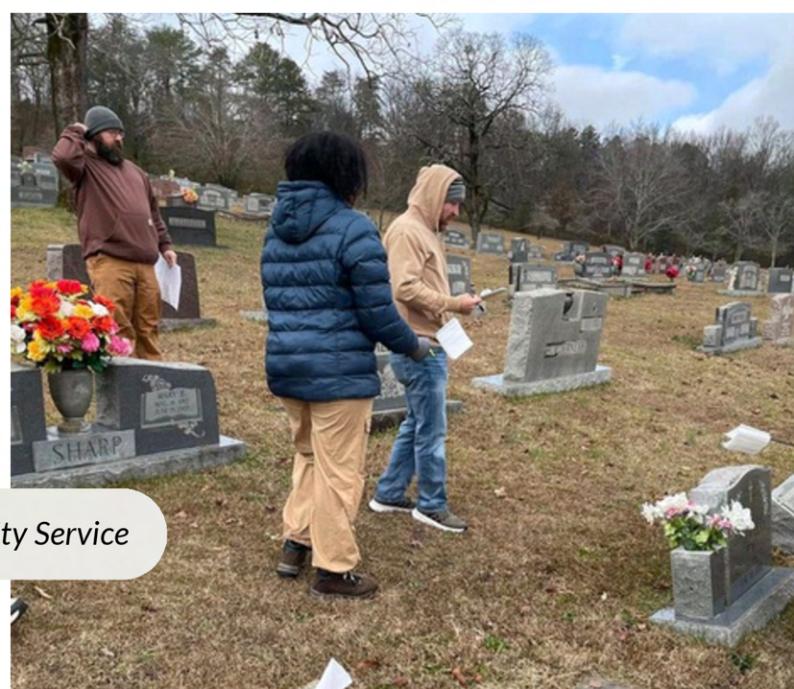
DECEMBER



Gathering of Eagles



Community Service



2025 EAGLE SCOUTS



Karson Argentbright
Bryan Ballew
Brock Beeler
William Boggs
Mikkel Boggs
William Boyd
Samuel Bragg
Mason Bray
Gavin Brown
Tristan Cooper

Keifer Decker
James Derrick
Miles Diwan
Ty Elliott
Jackson Evans
Luke Ferrer
Jack Figlestahler
Jackson Gallagher
Caden Gildernew
Jackson Gordon

Micah Green
Matthew Hamill
Jonathan Hamill
Tucker Hankins
Boston Heier
Terry Delancett III
Charles Gracey, Jr
Robert Littleton
Jackson Lockery
Killian Malecky

Callie Mulkey
Amos Oster
Landon Phearsdorf
Nathan Schaefer
Conner Seaborn
Chandler Shepherd
Finn Simmons
Logan Smith
Maximillian Solis
Luke Sowa

Nathan Sunder
James Tracy
Lyle Vaughn
Jack Waymire
Stephen Wheatley
Peyton Williford
Ryan Wilson
Aiden Young
Lilly Young
Roman Zahrobsky

"SHOOT FOR THE MOON" FUNDRAISER

We sold a whopping **1,412 cases** of MoonPies this year. Laid end to end, that's enough deliciousness to **stretch across the iconic Walnut Street Bridge twelve times!** Stack those MoonPies sky-high and they'd **climb Lookout Mountain seven times.** Now that's a mountain of snacks!

Nine units crushed their previous records, boosting MoonPie sales by an **impressive \$17,475!**



COMMUNITY SERVICE



2025 BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Executive Committee

President: Jonathan Turner
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Council Commissioner: Rob Miller
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Vice President of Communications: Ellis Smith
Vice President of Development: Rich Mozingo
Vice President of Membership: Marsha Drake
Vice President of Operations: Steve Ledbetter
Vice President of Planned Giving: Paul Jacobs
Vice President of Community Impact: Oliver Richmond
Vice President of Program: Greg Lee
Vice President of Properties: Bill Clegg
Vice President of Safe Scouting: Don Robinson
Treasurer: Garnett Decosimo
Legal Council: Mitch Carter
Scout Executive/ CEO: Jared Pickens

Executive Board

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Jeb Barrett
Rich Bout
Eric Buchanan
Adam Buddenbohn
Brian Bush
Mark Caldwell
Doug Carricker
David C. Chaffin
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Kyle Croft
Jim Daughdrill

Allison Davis
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Sissy Figlestahler
Michael Fisher
Evann Freeman
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Mark Kleiner
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Byron Trantham
Art Washburn
Shawn Whitfield
Jermaine Wilson
Bill Basco
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Ron Eytchison, (Ret.)
J.B. Gaskins
Ruby Key
Bill Leonard
Bill Lupia
Book McCray
James A. Miller
Vann Newell
Brad Scott
David Taylor
Nicole Watson
Gregg Whalen



If you would like to help us continue to serve our Scouts and our local community, please consider donating by scanning the QR code below.



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